

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENNA 07496 031008Z

17

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-09 NEA-10 ISO-00 ERDA-07

AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07

FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01

PM-04 USIA-15 SAM-01 OES-05 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04

TRSE-00 FEA-01 PA-02 PRS-01 IO-10 /154 W

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R 030912Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6548

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

USINT BAGHDAD

UNCLAS VIENNA 7496

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, OPEC, AU

SUBJ: VIENNA PRESS REPORTS ON OPEC MATTERS

1. AS USUAL, HARD INFORMATION IS HARD TO COME BY ON

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PAGE 02 VIENNA 07496 031008Z

OPEC ECONOMIC EXPERTS' AUGUST MEETING (REFTEL). FOLLOWING

DIGEST OF RECENT ARTICLE IN SEMI-OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER "WIENER ZEITUNG" INDICATES GENERAL SCOPE AND RESULTS OF MEETING: ACCORDING TO PAPER, THE GROUP PROVISIONALLY COMPLETED THEIR WORK AUGUST 26. THEY WERE TRYING TO ASCERTAIN THE DECREASE IN PURCHASING POWER OF OIL REVENUES CAUSED BY INFLATION AND TO CREATE A PRICE INDEX; THEY WILL PRESENT RESULTS OF THEIR WORK TO THEIR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS AND MAY MEET AGAIN IN VIENNA ON SEPTEMBER 14 OR 15 TO DRAW UP A COMMON AND FINAL REPORT FOR THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION, WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO MEET STARTING SEPT. 16.

2. VIENNA DAILY "DIE PRESSE" HAS REPORTED THAT OPEC IS USING AN OECD STUDY ON OPEC'S LOSS OF INCOME RESULTING FROM PRICE INCREASES FOR THEIR IMPORTS. ACCORDING TO THE STUDY, THE PAPER REPORTS, VOLUME OF OPEC IMPORTS ROSE IN 1974 BY 40 PERCENT WHILE IN TERMS OF VALUE THE INCREASE AMOUNTED TO 75 PERCENT. OPEC ARGUES THESE STATISTICS ONLY COVER COMMODITIES WHILE THE SERVICES THEY REQUIRE HAVE BECOME UP TO 100 PERCENT MORE EXPENSIVE. "DIE PRESSE" FURTHER REPORTED THAT OPEC FINANCE MINISTERS WOULD BE MEETIN IN WASHINGTON THIS WEEK FOR CONSULTATIONS ON THE OIL PRICE SYSTEM AS WELL AS QUESTIONS OF FISCAL AND MONETARY COOPERATION.MEEHAN

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